



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

MEDIA ADVISORY

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2008

CONTACT: Mónica Muñoz
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WHEN 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, June 3, 2008

WHERE Chula Vista Police Department Memorial Wall
315 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista

WHAT Law Enforcement Torch Run and Torch Lighting Ceremony for Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC)

Representatives from more than 20 city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies in San Diego County will light and carry a torch from Chula Vista PD through the streets of San Diego. They will be accompanied by Special Olympics athletes.

This run is one of three in California leading up to the SOSC Summer Games which will take place June 13-15, 2007 at California State University Long Beach.

Runners' entry fees, t-shirt sales and other fund-raising events provide the funds for athletes with mental disabilities to participate in the SOSC.

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SPECIAL NOTE:

Representatives from the participating law enforcement agencies will run designated legs (2-3 miles each). The hand-off of the torch from one group to the next will not involve a ceremony; it will be a quick handoff only.

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Special Olympics

Southern California

San Diego County

The Law Enforcement Torch Run, benefiting Special Olympics Southern California, San Diego County spans hundreds of miles and will pass through many San Diego cities on June 3rd and 4th. The Torch Run is an annual event in which law enforcement officers run the Special Olympics torch to an upcoming championship event. This summer more than 4,000 officers will carry the Flame of Hope to Special Olympics Southern California's annual Summer Games Opening Ceremony on June 13th.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run will begin its journey on June 3, 2008 at Chula Vista PD and travel through San Diego County. Other Torch Runs will begin around the same time and all legs will convene on June 13th in Long Beach. A single torch will be carried into the Opening Ceremony, signifying the start of the 2008 Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games.

In San Diego, more than 150 runners will run the torch from Chula Vista to Orange County where the torch will be passed on to Orange County officers. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is an international effort to help raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics. The Law Enforcement Torch Run has been the largest grass roots fundraising program and public awareness vehicle for Special Olympics. Each officer participating in the Torch Run contributes to the local Special Olympics program.

For more information about Special Olympics, please contact (Teresa Contreras at tcontreras@sosc.org or call 619-283-6100.